

Remarks

Claims 1-3, 6-9, 11, 12, and 16-24 are pending in the present application. The drawings stand objected to. Claims 1-4 and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b). Claims 1, 6, 14, and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Claims 7-11, 13, and 16 stand allowed. Claims 1, 7, and 16 have been amended. Claims 4, 9, 13, 14, and 15 have been cancelled. New claims 17-24 have been added.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the above-identified application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Objection to the Drawings:

In regard to the objection to the drawings, the relevant dependent claims have been cancelled, making this rejection moot.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that this objection be withdrawn.

35 U.S.C. 102(b) (Claims 1-4, 12) (Chen):

In regard to this rejection, the feature(s) of allowable claim 13 have been added to independent claim 1. Claims 1-3 and 12 should be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

35 U.S.C. 103(a) (Claims 1, 6) (Dranselka/Chen):

In regard to this rejection, the feature(s) of allowable claim 13 have been added to independent claim 1. Claims 1 and 6 should be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

35 U.S.C. 103(a) (Claims 14, 15) (Chen/Nusbaum):

In regard to this rejection, dependent claims 14 and 15 have been cancelled, making this rejection moot.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter):

In regard to this item, the feature(s) of allowable claim 13 have been added to independent claim 1, the features of independent claim 1 have been added to allowable claim 7, and the features of independent claim 1 have been added to allowable claim 16. Further, new dependent claims 17-24, which track dependent claims 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, and 13 have been added, and also should be in condition for allowance as dependent claims of an allowable independent base claim.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the allowance of pending claims 1-3, 6-9, 11, 12, and 16-24.

Conclusion

On the basis of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration and allowance of the application is believed to be warranted and such action is respectfully requested. Applicant respectfully submits that he does not acquiesce to any of the positions set forth in the Office Action(s). If the Examiner has any questions or comments regarding this amendment, the Examiner is respectfully urged to contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,
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